

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6770

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PAN AM - AEROFLOT RELATIONS

1. IN EVENT DEPARTMENT MAY NOT HAVE RECEIVED COPY, EMBASSY
IS TRANSMITTING TEXT OF LETTER DATED JULY 15 SIGNED BY
AEROFLOT DIRECTOR GENERAL BARABASH TO PAN AM PRESIDENT WISER.
EMBASSY'S COPY WAS PROVIDED BY LOCAL PAN AM REP.

BEGIN:

IN THE PERIOD FROM 7TH TO 11TH JUNE, 1976 THE
NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE IN MOSCOW BETWEEN THE SOVIET
AND THE UNITED STATES DELEGATIONS ON THE MATTERS OF FURTHER
DEVELOPMENT OF AIR SERVICES BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE UNITED STATES.

DUE TO THE FACT THAT BOTH SIDES COULD NOT REACH AN
AGREEMENT ON THE DISCUSSED ITEMS, THE SOVIET DELEGATION SUGGESTED
TO MAINTAIN STATUS QUO SITUATION. THE U.S. DELEGATION,
HOWEVER, STATED THEY WOULD PROBABLY COME BACK TO THE MATTER
OF TWO FREQUENCIES PER WEEK FOR BOTH AEROFLOT AND PAN AMERICAN
FOR WINTER 1976/77 AND SUMMER 1977, UNLESS OTHERWISE AGREED BETWEEN
THE TWO PARTIES.

AGREEMENT ON OPERATION OF CHARTER SERVICES BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND THE USSR EXPIRES ON MARCH 31, 1977.
THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES OF THE USSR INFORMED

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AEROFLOT ABOUT THE FACT THAT ALL CHARTER FLIGHTS OF PAN AMERICAN

AND AEROFLOT ALREADY PLANNED FOR THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1, 1977 WILL BE CANCELLED IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THE POSITION OF THE AMERICAN SIDE REGARDING THE LIMITATION OF REGULAR FREQUENCIES.

I BELIEVE, MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS KNOWN TO YOU THAT AEROFLOT AND PAN AMERICAN TOGETHER WITH INTOURIST HAVE MADE JOINT EFFORTS FOR ATTRACTION OF AMERICAN TOURISTS FROM THE USA TO THE USSR AND VICE VERSA ON DIRECT SERVICES OF PAN AM AND AEROFLOT. THE RESULTS OF THESE ACTIVITIES CAN BE EVALUATED POSITIVELY. HOWEVER, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF COMPLETE UNCERTAINTY IN THE MATTER OF REGULAR AND CHARTER FLIGHTS FOR SUMMER 1977, INTOURIST IS TILL NOW UNABLE TO CONFIRM TO THE AMERICAN TRAVEL AGENCIES SERVICING IN THE USSR OF THOSE TOURISTS, CARRIAGE OF WHICH IS ALREADY PLANNED FOR SUMMER 1977 ON AEROFLOT AND PAN AMERICAN.

FURTHERMORE, IN CASE OUR AIR COMPANIES ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO CONFIRM TO INTOURIST THEIR SCHEDULES BY AUGUST 1, 1976, INTOURIST WILL BE COMPELLED TO REFUSE CONFIRMATION OF THE PROGRAM ALREADY SUBMITTED BY THE AMERICAN TRAVEL AGENCIES.

AS A RESULT OF THIS, JOINT ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON BY AEROFLOT, PAN AMERICAN AND INTOURIST WILL BE BROUGHT TO NOTHING AND ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF AMERICAN TOURISTS WISHING TO VISIT THE USSR WILL HAVE TO ENLIST THE SERVICES OF THIRD COUNTRIES CARRIERS, THE FACT THAT WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR AIRLINES.

THEREFORE, I WOULD APPRECIATE, MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR INFORMATION ON THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY YOU IN THE PRESENT SITUATION OR THE WAYS TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY LOSSES IN THE TRAFFIC OF TOURISTS CARRIED BY OUR AIRLINES BETWEEN THE USA AND THE USSR.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REPLY IN A POSSIBLE SHORT TIME.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,

END

2. COMMENT: LETTER, THOUGH DATED JULY 15, PROBABLY WAS FORMULATED BEFORE DELIVERY OF EMBASSY'S DIPLOMATIC NOTE JULY 13.
MATLOCK

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